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Department of State

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ACTION EUR-00

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 MSC-01  
IO-19 NSAE-00 HA-09 INRE-00 PRS-01 P-02 /0411 W  
-----346124 090351Z /72

R 081331Z MAR 88  
FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9836  
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW POUCH)  
AMCONSUL CALGARY POUCH)  
AMCONSUL HALIFAX POUCH)  
AMCONSUL QUEBEC POUCH)  
AMCONSUL TORONTO POUCH)  
AMCONSUL VANCOUVER POUCH)

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MONTREAL 00736

OTTAWA PLEASE POUCH TO CALGARY, HALIFAX, QUEBEC, TORONTO  
AND VANCOUVER.

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PINR, PHUM, PREL, CA  
SUBJECT: CANADIAN HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST CLARIFIES  
- HIS CLAIM THAT RAUL WALLENBERG STILL ALIVE

REF:

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. *[Handwritten mark]*

"INCONTROVERTIBLE" EVIDENCE THAT FORMER SWEDISH DIPLOMAT  
RAUL WALLENBERG, THE SAVIOR OF THOUSANDS OF JEWS IN  
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WHII, IS STILL ALIVE.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE	IS/FPC/CDR <i>WH</i> Date: <i>1/18/93</i>
( ) RELEASE	( ) DECLASSIFY
(X) LOOSE	(X) D. CLASSIFY
( ) DENY	( ) IN PART
( ) DELETE Non-Responsive Info	( ) TS authority to
FOIA Exemptions <i>151A5, P6</i>	( ) S or ( ) C OADR
PA Exemptions	( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C OADR
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3. DURING A LUNCHEON WITH CONSUL GENERAL AND ECONOMIC OFFICER, ELABORATED AND MODIFIED HIS CLAIM.

4. MAIN CONTENTION IS THAT THE ONLY SOVIET STATEMENT RE THE FATE OF WALLENBERG WAS NOT CONVINCING. POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH SOVIET JUDICIAL AND PRISON AUTHORITIES ARE KNOWN FOR THE PRECISION AND ACCURACY OF THEIR RECORDS, THAT DOCUMENT WAS VAGUE, INCONCLUSIVE AND INTERNALLY INCONSISTENT. AS REPORTED REFTEL, HAS ABOUT TWENTY PIECES OF TESTIMONY, NOTARIZED AND INDEPENDENTLY VERIFIED, THAT WALLENBERG WAS ALIVE AFTER THE 1947 DATE GIVEN IN THE DOCUMENT. CONTENDS THAT, AS WALLENBERG WAS LAST KNOWN TO BE IN SOVIET CUSTODY, THERE IS A LEGAL PRESUMPTION THAT HE IS STILL ALIVE AND INCARCERATED UNTIL THE SOVIETS PRODUCE MORE DEFINITIVE PROOF TO THE CONTRARY.

5. ALSO ELABORATED ON THE MOST RECENT REPORT HE HAD RECEIVED THAT WALLENBERG IS STILL ALIVE. ACCORDING TO THIS INFORMATION, PROVIDED BY A "TRUSTED FRIEND OF A TRUSTED FRIEND," WALLENBERG IS BEING HELD IN A PRISON IN OR NEAR MYRNA (PHON) WHICH IS LOCATED A FEW KILOMETERS OFF THE MAIN MOSCOW - LENINGRAD HIGHWAY. DURING RECENT VISIT TO MOSCOW HE SPOKE TO THE SAKHAROV, WHO HAD ATTEMPTED TO CONFIRM THE EXISTENCE

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OF A PRISON FACILITY IN THE AREA. THEY HAD BEEN TURNED BACK AT A CHECKPOINT WITH THE EXPLANATION THAT THERE WAS A FACTORY PRODUCING HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS IN THE AREA.

6. HOPES THAT BY CASTING DOUBTS ON THE ONLY PIECE OF EVIDENCE THE SOVIETS HAVE OFFERED REGARDING WALLENBERG, HE CAN PUT PRESSURE FOR HIS RELEASE IN THE (ADMITTEDLY UNLIKELY) EVENT HE IS STILL ALIVE OR THAT THEY WILL OFFER PROOF REGARDING HIS DEATH. CONSIDERS IT IMPOSSIBLE THAT THE SOVIET SYSTEM WOULD

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HOLD A FOREIGNER OF WALLEMBERG'S STATURE WITHOUT DETAILED RECORDS. HE BELIEVES THAT SOVIET SECRECY ON THE ISSUE IS MOTIVATED BY FEARS FROM OLD-GUARD BUREAUCRATS, PARTICULARLY IN THE KGB, THAT THEY WILL BE IMPLICATED BY THE TRUTH. HE FEELS THAT GORBACHEV IS THE ONLY ONE ABLE TO OVERCOME THIS RESISTANCE AND DEMAND A FULL ACCOUNTING.

- B6 7. WHETHER OR NOT WALLEMBERG IS DEAD, [ ] FEELS THE SOVIETS HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HE WAS MORE THAN JUST ANOTHER PRISONER AND TO COMMEMORATE HIM. HE SAID THAT SOME ENCOURAGEMENT ON THIS SCORE HAD COME DURING A MEETING WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO REFERRED TO WALLEMBERG IN COMPLIMENTARY TERMS AND EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SEEING THE EVIDENCE BROUGHT. HE ALSO SAID THAT IN CANADA HE HAD BEEN TOLD BY ONE JOURNALIST THAT THE SOVIETS HAD APPROACHED HIM TO ASK PARTICULAR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE WALLEMBERG MATTER.
- B6 8. COMMENT. [ ] COMES ACROSS AS A FAR MORE LOW-KEY AND SERIOUS ADVOCATE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS THAN PRESS STORIES HAVE PORTRAYED HIM. HE MAKES A PERSUASIVE CASE FOR THE NEED TO CONTINUE PRESSING THE SOVIETS ON THIS MATTER

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AND SUGGESTS SOME ENCOURAGING SIGNS THAT GORBACHEV AND  
HIS SUPPORTERS ARE WILLING TO RESPOND. IF A WAY COULD  
BE FOUND TO REVEAL THE TRUTH ABOUT HALLENBERG WITHOUT  
ENDANGERING THOSE WHO HAVE WITHHELD IT, THIS MATTER COULD  
BE LAID TO REST. HOWEVER, IF DISCLOSURE NECESSITATES  
EXPOSING THE COVER-UP, GORBACHEV MAY NOT YET BE IN A  
STRONG ENOUGH POSITION TO DELIVER.

26 9. CONSULATE WILL BE REPORTING ON OTHER ASPECTS OF THE  
CONVERSATION WITH ] SEPARATELY. END COMMENT.  
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